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Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 1 with the following amended paragraph:

FIG. 4 is a block diagram of a datapath in a processor.

FIG. 5 is a block diagram of entries in a CAM device to track queue descriptors.

FIG. 5A is a block diagram of an instruction format.

FIG. 6 is a flow diagram of a queue description update process.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 13 with the following amended paragraph:

If a queue descriptor 24 required for either an enqueue or dequeue is not in queue array 46, the queue manager programming engine 26 27 issues a write-back to memory of the LRU entry, followed by a fetch to the same entry, before issuing the enqueue or dequeue command. If the CAM 28 lookup indicates that the needed queue descriptor 24 is already in the queue array 46, then the enqueue or dequeue command is issued without replacing an entry.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 1 with the following amended paragraph:

The microengine 19 (in the processor 18 containing multiple microengines 19) tasked with congestion avoidance reads the queue descriptors 24 from memory 20 to determine the length (count word 40) of each output queue 22. The queue descriptors 24 for highly used output queues 22 can remain in the queue array 46 of the memory controller 44 for an infinitely long time period. A Write_Q_Descriptor_Count Command is issued by the queue manager programming engine 26 27 after the enqueue or dequeue command, when the entry used "hits" the CAM 28. As shown in FIG. 5A, the format of the command is:

Write_Q_Descriptor_Count (address, entry).